

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-16 (canceled)

17. (new) A method for deactivation using at least one vaporous or gaseous chemical, the method comprising:

circulating a gas through a closed loop system comprised of a conduit and a region, wherein said conduit is fluidly connected with the region at an inlet of the region and at an outlet of the region, said circulation of the gas is produced by a blower disposed within the conduit;

generating ozone gas in the conduit, wherein said ozone gas is generated by an ozone generator disposed within the conduit, said ozone generator producing the ozone gas from the gas circulating through the conduit;

removing moisture from the gas circulating in the conduit in advance of generating the ozone gas, wherein said moisture is removed by a drying means disposed in the conduit upstream of the ozone generator;

introducing vaporized hydrogen peroxide into said conduit, said vaporized hydrogen peroxide produced by a vaporizer disposed within the conduit downstream of the ozone generator; and

destroying vaporized hydrogen peroxide removed from the region through said outlet, wherein said vaporized hydrogen peroxide is destroyed by a destroyer disposed in the conduit.

18. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein the steps of generating ozone gas and introducing vaporized hydrogen peroxide are alternated.

19. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein the steps of generating ozone gas and introducing vaporized hydrogen peroxide are contemporaneous.

20. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said step of generating ozone gas includes producing an electrical discharge in the presence of the circulating gas.
21. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said step of generating ozone gas includes producing ultraviolet light in the presence of the circulating gas.
22. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said method further comprises:  
monitoring the concentration of the generated ozone.
23. (new) A method according to claim 21, wherein said method further comprises:  
modifying the concentration of the generated ozone to obtain a predetermined ozone concentration.
24. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said method further comprises:  
destroying ozone produced by the ozone generator, said ozone destroyed by an ozone destroyer disposed in a supplemental conduit fluidly connected with said conduit downstream of said region.
25. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said method further comprises:  
heating the circulating gas, wherein said circulating gas is heated by a heater located upstream of said vaporizer.
26. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said step of destroying includes catalytically decomposing hydrogen peroxide vapor into water and oxygen.
27. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said step of drying includes using a desiccant to remove moisture.

28. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein said gas circulating in the conduit is a carrier gas that includes air.